

DATE:	2021 November 29
TO:	Edmonton and North Zone Connect Care Live Sites - Medical and Nursing Staff, Allied Health
FROM:	Pre and Post Analytics, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Changes to Labels for CSF Testing in Connect Care

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective December 6, 2021, there will be changes in labelling of specimens for CSF testing in Connect Care.

Background

- This process has been developed to ensure the appropriate tests are performed on the correct CSF specimens based on the order in which the tubes are collected.
- With the current process, the collection order of the CSF specimens may be miscommunicated, potentially causing tests to be performed on the incorrect tube and affecting the test results.

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CSF TUBE

How this will impact you

- At collection, the CSF labels printed will no longer show the tests ordered. Generic CSF tube labels will be generated with a blank spot to hand write a number on the tube indicating the order of collection.
- If this spot is left blank, the laboratory will assume the numbers etched on the tube represent the order of collection.
- All tubes and any unused labels should be delivered to the lab specimen receiving area.

Action Required

- Order all required tests on the CSF source as usual.
- Label all the CSF specimens. Ensure the order of collection is indicated by hand writing the numbers on the CSF labels in the spot provided or indicated with the etched numbers on the tubes.
- If there is a discrepancy between the etched number and the number hand written on the label, the written number will be assumed to be correct.
- Document collection in Connect Care.
- Deliver all samples and any unused CSF labels to the lab specimen receiving area.

Effective December 6, 2021

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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- Dr. Michael Mengel, Medical Director, North Sector, APL
- Dr. Raymond Lai, Medical Director, DynaLIFE Medical Labs